

## Message Text

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70

ACTION AF-06

INFO OCT-01 EUR-12 NEA-10 IO-11 ISO-00 SAM-01 CIAE-00

DODE-00 PM-04 H-02 INR-07 L-03 NSAE-00 NSC-05 PA-01

PRS-01 SP-02 SS-15 USIA-06 ACDA-05 /092 W

----- 124687

R 041431Z MAR 76

FM AMEMBASSY NOUAKCHOTT

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 5230

INFO AMEMBASSY ALGIERS

RUDKMDQTXAMEMBASSY MADRID 303

AMEMBASSY RABAT

USMISSION USUN NY

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E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: PBOR PFOR MR SS

SUBJECT: SAHARA WATCH: MAURITANIAN PRESIDENT ON SELF-DETERMINATION

1. IN VIEW OF CURRENT CONTRETEMPS ABOUT SELF-DETERMIRETION FOR WESTERN SAHARA, I.E. RECENT STATEMENT BY UN SYG, SPANISH POSITION THAT EXTRAORDINARY MEETING OF JSBAA DID NOT FULFILL TRIPARTITE AGREEMENT CLAUSE ON SELF-DETERMINATION, AND POLISARIO DECLARATION OF INDEPENDENT COUNTRY, WE CALL ATTENTION TO COMMENTS ON SELF-DETERMINATION BY PRESIDENT OULD DADDAH IN EXCLUSIVE FEBRUARY 14 INTERVIEW WITH ANSA OF ROH. THIS LATEST AND MOST AUTHORITATIVE STATEMENT ON SELF-DETERMINATION FOR SAHARA REPEATS CLAIM THAT GIRMOMH AS NEVER FEARED FREE AND HONEST REFERENDUM IN THE REGION.

2. ACCORDING TO FBIS ACCGUNUOF INTERVIEW, OULD DADDAH SAID QUOTE THAT THE PEOPLE OF THE FORMERLY SPANISH-ADMINISTERED WEST SAHARA TERRITORY WOULD OPT FOR MAURITANIAN CITIZENSHIP IF GIVEN ITS CHOICE. HE EXPRESSED HIS 'DEEP CONVICTION' THAT A REFERENDUM ON SELF-DETERMINATION WOULD RESULT IN THE WEST SAHARAN POPULATION'S 'RETURN' TO ITS MAURITANIAN 'MOTHER COUNTRY'. HE ASSERTED 'WE HAVE NEVER FEARED A PLEBISCITE AS OUR SLANDERELD  
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WOULD LIKE TO BELIEVE', ADDING THAT AN HONEST REFERENDUM AMONG

SAHARANS HAS BECOME MATERIALLY IMPOSSIBLE BECAUSE OF ALL OF THE POPULATION MOVEMENTS AND CHANGES THAT HAVE OCCURED SINCE 1939 UNQUOTE.

3. OULD DADDAH ALSO NOTED IN INTERVIEW THAT WAR WAS FORCED UPON MAURITANIA BY OUTSIDERS. HE REGRETTEED THAT ALGERIA IS ARMING AND FINANCING MOVEMENT THAT HAS TURNED INTO "BAND OF MERCENARIES". ALTHOUGH ADMITTING THAT WAR IS VERY COSTLY, OULD DADDAH INSISTED THAT MAURITANIA'S DEVELOPMENT PLANS ARE NOT IN DANGER SINCE GIRM HAS RECEIVED ENOUGH AID FROM MANY FRIENDLY ARAB COUNTRIES TO COMPENSATE FOR DEFENSE SPENDING.

4. SUMMARY OF INTERVIEW IS PRINTED IN FBIS-MEA-76-32 OF FEBRUARY 17, 1976, WHICH JUST RECEIVED HERE.HANDYSIDE

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## Message Attributes

**Automatic Decaptioning:** X  
**Capture Date:** 01 JAN 1994  
**Channel Indicators:** n/a  
**Current Classification:** UNCLASSIFIED  
**Concepts:** FOREIGN POLICY POSITION, SELFDETERMINATION, REFERENDUMS  
**Control Number:** n/a  
**Copy:** SINGLE  
**Draft Date:** 04 MAR 1976  
**Decaption Date:** 01 JAN 1960  
**Decaption Note:**  
**Disposition Action:** RELEASED  
**Disposition Approved on Date:**  
**Disposition Authority:** morefirh  
**Disposition Case Number:** n/a  
**Disposition Comment:** 25 YEAR REVIEW  
**Disposition Date:** 28 MAY 2004  
**Disposition Event:**  
**Disposition History:** n/a  
**Disposition Reason:**  
**Disposition Remarks:**  
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**Original Handling Restrictions:** n/a  
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**Reference:** n/a  
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**TAGS:** PBOR, PFOR, MR, SS, POLISARIO, (OULD DADDAH, MOKTAR)  
**To:** STATE  
**Type:** TE  
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